Representative Roberta Willis Higher Education & Employment Advancement Committee Legislative Office Building Hartford, CT 06106

March 4, 2011

Dear Representative Willis,

I understand that Governor Malloy is planning on making significant cuts to the Connecticut Independent College Student (CICS) grant program. As our state's elected representatives plan a path through these difficult economic times, I would plead that they do everything possible so as not to put short-term financial issues ahead of the long-term interests of the citizens of our state. The ability of Connecticut to build from its youth a strong, vibrant, well-educated workforce will depend on how well our young people are educated. If we limit access to an excellent education for those who otherwise could not afford it, we would be doing all of us a great disservice, limiting our state's ability to compete in an increasingly competitive, worldwide job market. The Connecticut Independent College Student (CICS) grant program is an investment that we cannot afford to reject. It is important to the economy of our state and to the future of its citizens. Please do what you can to prevent cuts to this program in our state's biennium budget.

Sincerely,

Bradley Woodworth 141 Cottage St. D-2

New Haven, CT 06511